AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE UNDER 37 (FR § 1.116 - EXPEDITED PROCEDURE

Serial Number: 09/630000 Filing Date: August 1, 2000

Title:

LEAD HAVING VARYING STIFFNESS AND METHOD OF MANUFACTURING THEREOF

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Amendments to the Claims

Please amend the claims as follows:

DO NOT

16. (Currently Amended) An apparatus comprising:

a lead body extending from a proximal end to a distal end and having an intermediate portion therebetween, the lead body including two or more coradial individually insulated conductors disposed therein, wherein the coradial conductors are wound about a single axis;

the individually insulated coradial conductors including a first conductor and a second conductor, the first conductor comprised of a first material, and the second conductor comprised of a second material, wherein the first material has a different stiffness than the second material; and

an electrode assembly including at least one electrode electrically coupled with at least one of the conductors.

- 17. (Previously Amended) The apparatus as recited in claim 16, wherein at least one coradial conductor traverses from the proximal end to the distal end, and at least one other coradial conductor traverses along only a portion of the lead body.
- 18. (Previously Amended) The apparatus as recited in claim 17, wherein the at least one other coradial conductor electrically and mechanically terminates at the electrode assembly.
- 19. (Previously Amended) The apparatus as recited in claim 16, wherein one or more coradial conductors includes two or more filars.
- 20. (Original) The apparatus as recited in claim 16, wherein the first material and the second material have different electrical properties.
- 21. (Original) The apparatus as recited in claim 16, wherein the first material comprises MP35N.

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22. (Original) The apparatus as recited in claim 21, wherein the second material comprises Pt/Ta.

23. (Previously Amended) The apparatus as recited in claim 22, wherein the lead body includes a first section near the distal end, a third section near the proximal end, and a second section disposed between the first and the third sections, where the first coradial conductor is disposed only in the second and third sections.

- 24. (Previously Amended) The apparatus as recited in claim 16, wherein the individually insulated coradial conductors further include a third coradial conductor and a fourth coradial conductor, the first, second, third, and fourth conductors disposed at the proximal end of the lead body, and the first and second conductors disposed at the distal end of the lead body.
- 25. (Previously Amended) The apparatus as recited in claim 16, wherein at least one of the individually insulated coradial conductors is formed of material having heat setting capabilities.
- 26. (Previously Amended) The apparatus as recited in claim 16, wherein the individually insulated coradial conductors and the lead body have a two or three dimensional bias.
- 27. (Original) An apparatus comprising:

a lead body extending from a proximal end to a distal end and having an intermediate portion therebetween, the lead body including two or more individually insulated conductors disposed therein;

the insulated conductors including a first conductor and a second conductor, the first conductor traversing along less than an entire length of the lead body, the first conductor extending from the distal end of the lead body to the intermediate portion;

the second conductor traversing from the proximal end to the distal end of the lead body; at least the first conductor is comprised of a first material, at least the second conductor is comprised of a second material, the first material having a different stiffness than the second material;

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the lead body having four conductors disposed at the proximal end of the lead body, and two conductors disposed at the distal end of the lead body; and

an electrode assembly including at least one electrode electrically coupled with at least one conductor, the first conductor electrically and/or mechanically terminating at the electrode assembly.

28. (Original) A method of varying the stiffness of a coiled conductor assembly, the method comprising:

winding a plurality of conductors to form the coiled conductor assembly pulling at least one loop of a first conductor away from the coiled conductor assembly.

- 29. (Original) The method as recited in claim 28, further comprising crimping the at least one loop.
- 30. (Original) The method as recited in claim 29, further comprising electrically coupling the first conductor to an electrode.
- 31. (Original) The method/as recited in claim 30, further comprising electrically terminating the first conductor at the electrode.
- 32. (Original) The/method as recited in claim 28, further comprising spinning a mandrel and forming the coiled conductor assembly therein, and pulling the loop includes stopping the mandrel.
- 33. (Original) The method as recited in claim 28, further comprising pulling one or more second loops of a second conductor.
- 34. (Original) The method as recited in claim 28, further comprising pulling one or more second Yoops of a second conductor having a different material than the first conductor.

35. (Original) The method as recited in claim 33, wherein pulling one or more second loops is performed directly adjacent to the first loop.

36. (Original) The method as recited in claim 33, further comprising pulling one or more third loops of a third conductor.

- 37. (Original) The method as recited in claim 36, further comprising pulling one or more third loops of a fourth conductor.
- 38. (Original) A method of modifying a stiffness of a lead extending from a proximal end to a distal end, where the lead includes two or more conductors therein, the method comprising:

forming insulation on the two or more conductors; and

winding the two or more conductors and dropping out one or more conductors at an intermediate portion of the lead.

- 39. (Original) The method as recited in claim 38, wherein winding the two or more conductors includes winding two or more conductors each having a different material.
- 40. (Original) The method as recited in claim 38, further comprising pulling a loop of at least one conductor during the winding.
- 41. (Original) The method as recited in claim 40, further comprising crimping and swaging the loop of conductor.
- 42. (Original) The method as recited in claim 41, further comprising electrically coupling the conductor with an electrode of the lead.
- 43. (Previously Added) The apparatus as recited in claim 16, wherein the coradial conductors form a single lumen within the lead body.

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44. (Previously Added) The apparatus recited in claim 16, wherein the lead body includes a first section near the distal end, a third section near the proximal end, and a second section disposed between the first and third sections, where the first conductor is disposed only in the first and third sections.

Please add the following claims:

45. (Newly Added) The apparatus recited in claim 16, wherein the two or more coradial conductors are concentric with the lead body.

46. (Newly Added) The apparatus recited in claim 16, wherein the two or more coradial conductors lie adjacent to the outer surface of the lead body.